

Secondhand Tobacco Smoke in Missouri



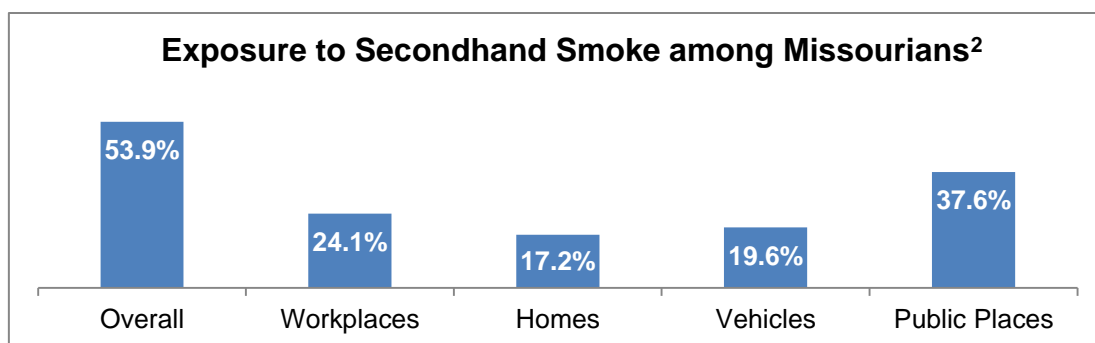
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Behavioral Health



Epidemiology
Workgroup

- ✦ There are more than 4,000 chemicals in secondhand tobacco smoke, more than 200 of which are known poisons such as arsenic, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, and lead¹.
- ✦ Secondhand tobacco smoke is rated as a Group A Carcinogen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States; approximately 1,200 Missourians die every year due to illnesses caused by secondhand smoke¹.
- ✦ In 2009-2010, overall reported exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke in the past 7 days among Missourians was the 3rd highest in the country at 53.9%².



- ✦ Missouri ranks lower than other states in the percentage of adults who have smoke-free home rules (74.2%, ranks 48th), and who think smoking should never be allowed in indoor workplaces (69.6%, ranks 49th)².
- ✦ Exposure to secondhand smoke is also high among youth despite declining smoking rates. In 2013, about one-third of middle school students and one-half of high school students were exposed to secondhand smoke during the past 7 days³.
- ✦ Missouri currently does not have state laws that completely restrict smoking in workplaces, restaurants, or bars, though local communities are allowed to enact their own smoke-free laws².

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. *Missouri's Clean Indoor Air Law*. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/tobacco/smokingandtobacco/pdf/CIA-RightRead.pdf>

² National Adult Tobacco Survey 2009-2010. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/state_data/state_highlights/2012/states/missouri/index.htm

³ 2013 Missouri Youth Risk Behavior Survey and Youth Tobacco Survey. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/data/yrbss/pdf/2013report.pdf>

